

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A router comprising:

routing means for routing an IP packet;

an infrared-ray-emitting unit for emitting an infrared ray to an external apparatus;

and

control means for controlling said infrared-ray-emitting unit to emit an infrared ray based on a signal for controlling said external apparatus in accordance with data included in an IP packet received by said routing means.

2. (Original) A router according to claim 1, wherein an apparatus exchanging an IP packet with said routing means is a computer.

3. (Original) A router according to claim 2, wherein a control protocol adopted between said router and said computer is an RTSP (Real Time Streaming Protocol).

4. (Previously Presented) A router according to claim 2, said router further comprising:

an input unit for inputting an analog signal output by said external apparatus; and

conversion means for converting said input analog signal into a digital signal,
which is disassembled into IP packets to be output to said computer.

5. (Original) A router according to claim 4, wherein said external apparatus
is an audio/video apparatus.

6. (Previously Presented) A router according to Claim 1, wherein said
infrared-ray-emitting unit can be mounted on and dismounted from a main body of said router.

7. (Previously Presented) A router according to Claim 1, said router having
a plurality of said infrared-ray-emitting units, which can each be mounted on and dismounted
from a main body of said router.

8. (Original) A router comprising:
an infrared-ray-emitting device for controlling an external apparatus; and
an analog input port for receiving an analog signal from said external apparatus.

9. (Original) A router according to claim 8, wherein said analog input port
comprises an audio-signal input sub-port for inputting an analog signal and a video-signal input
sub-port for inputting a video signal.

10. (Original) A method for controlling an audio/video apparatus by using a
router, comprising the steps of:

emitting an infrared ray based on a signal for controlling said audio/video apparatus from said router to said audio/video apparatus in accordance with a request made by a computer connected to said router;

driving said router to convert an analog signal supplied by said audio/video apparatus as a result of execution of an operation at said above step to said router into a digital signal; and

outputting said digital signal obtained as a result of conversion from said router to said computer.